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Letter dated 1 June 2000 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have been instructed by my Government to lodge a strong protest at the behaviour of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations in Kosovo and Head of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) at the Conference "Kosovo and its Neighbours in the Future", organized by the Pristina "Kosovo Action for Civil Initiative" in Pristina on 27 May 2000. Statements to the effect that new realities recognized by the neighbours, such as the nascent Kosovo State, have been created in the region have been made at the Conference. The Special Representative and Head of UNMIK called the Conference "International" and, invoking Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) of 10 June 1999, said that "it defined the borders, but the reality is not in the documents".

There is no doubt that the Conference has been devised to provide a platform for a public presentation of separatism and the promotion of the idea of Greater Albania. By its name and content, the Conference juxtaposed Kosovo and Metohija, the autonomous province of the Yugoslav constituent Republic of Serbia, as a partner to sovereign States, i.e. as a subject of international relations, which is contrary to international law, Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) and the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. Participation of the officials of the international presences in Kosovo and Metohija in the Conference is therefore contrary to these documents and principles, while the brazen invocation of a "new reality" by the Special Representative and Head of UNMIK amounts to a crass disparagement of the said resolution and the transgression of his mandate.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Vladislav **Jovanović**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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